

**WILLIAM ZIEGLER
and VICKI ZIEGLER,**

VS.

Defendants.

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public interests in access.” Id. at 265-66 (quoting in part Rushford v. New Yorker Magazine, Inc., 846 F.2d 249, 253 (4th Cir. 1988)). The First Amendment right of access “may be restricted only if closure is ‘necessitated by a compelling government interest’ and the denial of access is ‘narrowly tailored to serve that interest.’” Id. at 266 (quoting in part In re Wash. Post Co., 807 F.2d 383, 390 (4th Cir. 1986)).

When presented with a motion to seal, the law of this Circuit requires this Court to: “(1) provide public notice of the request to seal and allow interested parties a reasonable opportunity to object, (2) consider less drastic alternatives to sealing the documents, and (3) provide specific reasons and factual findings supporting its decision to seal the documents and for rejecting the alternatives.” Ashcraft v. Conoco, Inc., 218 F.3d 288, 302 (4th Cir. 2000).

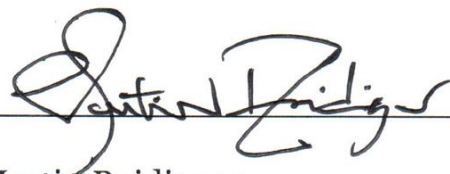
In the present case, the public has been provided with adequate notice and an opportunity to object to the Defendant’s Motion. The Defendant’s Motion was filed on November 8, 2023, and it has been accessible to the public through the Court’s electronic case filing system since that time. Further, the Defendant has demonstrated that the report at issue references the sensitive and personal health information of both the Plaintiff William Ziegler and a non-party who was also involved in the accident at issue, and

that the public's right of access to such information is substantially outweighed by the compelling interest in protecting the details of such information from public disclosure. Finally, having considered less drastic alternatives to sealing the documents, the Court concludes that the sealing of these materials is narrowly tailored to serve the interest of protecting this sensitive information.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that the Defendant's Consent Motion to Seal Document [Doc. 140] is **GRANTED**, and the documents filed collectively as Document 145 shall remain under seal until further Order of the Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Signed: November 28, 2023



Martin Reidinger
Chief United States District Judge

